

Survey Says: Corporate Pro Bono On Rise

CorporateProBono.Org surveyed in-house attorneys from Fortune 500 companies and members of the American Corporate Counsel Association and asked them about their contributions to equal justice. They surveyed 156 respondents, more than 90 percent of whom were general counsels or chief legal officers of their respective companies. (Top eight statistics on the board...)

83% Percentage of companies that allow their attorneys to use company time for pro bono work

22% Percentage of companies that allow their paralegals to use company time for pro bono work

83 Hours that an average in-house attorney spends on pro bono cases each year

66% Percentage of legal departments that do pro bono work without a formal program

3% Percentage of companies that have a written pro bono policy

14% Percentage of companies that consider pro bono work in law department evaluations

39% Percentage of companies that partner with another group (i.e., legal aid organization or law firm)

92% Percentage of companies that say their pro bono focus reflects the good citizenship and volunteer spirit of their company as a whole

Why Not Pro Bono?

Companies give different reasons for not doing pro bono work; among them...

Remote location of office	11.8%
Lack of interest	12.9%
Unauthorized practice concerns	15.1%
Lack of management support	23.7%
Budget limitations	34.4%
Doesn't match skill sets	48.4%
Lack of malpractice insurance	51.6%
Inadequate staffing	65.6%
Time constraints	83.9%

Substantive Law Areas

Corporate legal departments focus their free assistance in many areas, the most popular of which are...

Counseling nonprofits	53.3 %
Children's issues	31.7 %
Educational projects	25 %
Housing and homelessness	23.3 %
Community legal education	20 %
Representing the elderly	18.3 %
Representing artists/the arts	15 %
Family law	15 %